

HIST0850 – History of Modern South Asia, ca. 1700 – 1950
TR 10:00 – 11:30 pm

Ramya Sreenivasan
ramyas@sas.upenn.edu
Office: 308C College Hall

Course Description -- syllabus subject to change

This course provides an introduction to the history of modern South Asia and three of its nations, India, Pakistan and Bangladesh. The course pays particular attention to the political, social, economic and cultural forces that have shaped the history of South Asia from the Mughal Empire to the Partition of India. We will acquaint ourselves with significant events in the region's history, including the decline of the Mughal Empire, the establishment of colonial rule, the growth of nationalist resistance and decolonization, and examine the impact of these historical transformations upon South Asian politics, society and cultures in the last three centuries. Students will explore many of these topics through secondary scholarly essays and primary documents including travel accounts, the writings of Indian reformers, nationalist pamphlets and accounts of the Partition.

Required Reading:

The following books may be purchased at the Penn Bookstore. Other required readings are online on this course website.

1. Barbara D. Metcalf and Thomas R. Metcalf, *A Concise History of India*, Cambridge University Press, 3rd edition, 2012.
2. Ramachandra Guha, *The Makers of Modern India*, Belknap Press, 2011.

Grading:

Course grades will be determined as follows:

Essay 1 – 15%
Midterm examination – 20%
Essay 2 – 25%
Final examination – 30%
Class Participation (quizzes and discussion) – 10%

Assignments

You will write two essays, complete a midterm examination and a final examination for this course. The papers may be revised under my direction. The midterm examination will test you on materials from the first half of the course. The final examination will be cumulative of the entire semester's materials, but will emphasize the second half of the course.

Attendance can affect a borderline grade.

I expect that your written work will be completed on time and according to the directions specified in the assignment. A late paper will be marked down 1/3 a grade for each day that it is late. If you are experiencing any difficulty with your coursework, I urge you to speak with me immediately. It is your responsibility to speak to me prior to deadlines; *I do not grant extensions within 24 hours of a deadline.* In order to earn a passing grade in this course, you must complete two essays, the mid-term, and the final examination.

I may introduce changes in the syllabus as and when deemed necessary to promote your learning. Any change will be notified to you in advance through email.

Please complete the reading listed under each class date before you arrive in class. I expect you to prepare 2-3 questions from your readings every week, which we will discuss in the class. Lectures will not duplicate the reading assignments, but develop related topics in greater depth. Periodic pop-quizzes will be administered to insure that you are caught up with the course reading. I will not administer make-up quizzes. If you miss a quiz because of an absence you will receive a zero for that quiz.

Course Schedule

	<i>Topics & Readings (to be completed for class)</i>
Week 1 20 Jan 2015 22 Jan 2015	Introductions; India Under the Mughals <i>India Invented</i> , part 11 Metcalf and Metcalf, Chapter 1.
Week 2 27 Jan 2015 29 Jan 2015	The Mughal Empire: Courtly Culture, Comportment and Religion Metcalf and Metcalf, Chapter 2 R. Eaton, 'The Political and Religious authority of the Shrine of Baba Farid' Ruby Lal, "Settled, Sacred, and 'Incarcerated': the imperial <i>haram</i> ".
Week 3 3 Feb 2015 5 Feb 2015	European Trade in South Asia; The Decline of the Mughal Empire Metcalf and Metcalf, Chapter 2. Read Ashin Das Gupta, "Pieter Phoonsen of Surat" and bring to class.
Week 4 10 Feb 2015 12 Feb 2015	Mughal Decline; The Early East India Company C. A. Bayly, 'India in the Eighteenth Century: the formation of states and social groups'. Metcalf and Metcalf, Chapter 3. Eric Stokes, 'The First Century of British Rule in India'. Read Treaty with Jaipur and bring to class.
Week 5	Knowing India; Engaging Imperial Images and Discourses; The

	Barbara D. Metcalf, 'The Madrasa at Deoband: A Model for Religious Education in Modern India'.
Week 10 31 Mar 2015 2 Apr 2015	Language, Reform and Community; Early Nationalist Politics Read Guha, Chapter 4 and bring to class. Read Guha, Chapter 5 and bring to class. Dadabhai Naoroji, <i>Selections</i> . Metcalf and Metcalf, Chapter 6. Rajat Kanta Ray, 'Moderates, Extremists and Revolutionaries: Bengal, 1900-1908'.
Week 11 7 Apr 2015 9 Apr 2015	The Emergence of Gandhi; Gandhian Nationalism and Mass Politics Read Guha, Chapter 7 and bring to class. Extracts from Gandhi, <i>Hind Swaraj and Other Writings</i> . Shahid Amin, 'Gandhi as Mahatma'.
Week 12 14 Apr 2015 16 Apr 2015	The Khilafat Movement; Ambedkar and Caste politics Read extracts from writings of Muhammad Ali and bring to class. Read Guha, Chapter 9 and bring to class. B. R. Ambedkar, <i>What Gandhi and Congress have done to the Untouchables</i> (Selections).
Week 13 21 Apr 2015 23 Apr 2015	The Election...1937; The Path to Partition B. Prasad, 'Congress Versus the Muslim League, 1935-1937'. Metcalf and Metcalf, Chapter 7. Read Muhammad Ali Jinnah, 'Presidential Address' and bring to class. K. A. Abbas, 'Who Killed India?' M. S. Nawaz, 'The Heart Divided'. Read extracts from writings of Husain Ahmad Madani and Abul Kalam Azad and bring to class.
Week 14 28 Apr 2015 30 Apr 2015	Memory and Violence of the Partition Saadat Hasan Manto, <i>Thanda Gosht</i> . Saadat Hasan Manto, <i>Khol Do</i> . Amrita Pritam, <i>Pinjar</i> . Extracts from Urvashi Butalia, <i>The Other Side of Silence: Voices from the Partition of India</i> . M. S. Sathya, <i>Garm Hawa</i> .